200.0 lakh ha from 186.3 lakh ha during this period. During the current year the production of oilseeds are likely to reach a record level, as a result of various measures taken by the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

Subsidy to fertilizer industry

*330. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that nearly Rs. 3000 crores are given as subsidy to fertilizer sector;

(b) whether Government are aware that this subsidy helps only industry and big farmers; and

(c) if so, the steps Government are taking to reduce the subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The principle underlying the Retention Price and Subsidy Scheme is to protect the interest of farmers by making available fertilizers at uniform notified prices which they can afford and at the same time to ensure reasonable return on investment to the manufacturers and thus facilitate the growth of fertiliser industry.

With a view to reducing subsidy on indigenous fertilisers, differential levels of capacity utilisation and longer economic life of plant and machinery have been assumed for fixing the retention prices for the fifth pricing period commencing from 1-4-1988.

Sale of additional items through the outlets of PDS

*331. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have urged the State Governments to explore the possibilities of selling additional items through the outlets of the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, whether the State of Madhya Pradesh have accepted the recommendation and have raised additional essential items for distribution in the fair price shops; and

(c) if so, what are the items that were so increased and whether the supplies of these items were also made available to the State Governments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Government has informed that it distributes Jowar and Maiza depending on their availability The State Government procures these items on their own.

Collaboration in seed development

*332. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the norms and conditions laid down by Government for grant of technical/financial collaboration involving foreign equity participation as well as technical collaboration on royalty payment basis separately in seed development;

(b) whether approval of the Department of Bio-technology is required for such collaboation; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the authority which approves collaboration referred to above and the formalities required from Indian companies/firms for allowing such collaboration

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) The production of certified high yielding hybrid seeds and hybrids of plantlets developed through plants tissue culture has been recognised as a high technology area, and has been included in 1986, in the Appendix-I to Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for participation by MRTP/FERA companies. The usual norms and conditions laid down by

the Government for foreign technical/financial collaboration apply to seeds sector also.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The approval for foreign collaboration proposals in the seeds Sector is issued by the Department of Industrial Development on the recommendations of the concerned Departments. In some cases approvals are accorded by the Administrative Ministries under the powers delegated to them by the Ministry of Industry.

HUDCO Scheme for working women

*333. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) has recently announced a new scheme to help working women to have a fl._ in the metropolis and urban centres;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for effective implementation of the scheme throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Following are the main features of the HUDCO's newly formulated scheme, viz. Working Women Ownership Condominium:—

(i) The Condominium will be exclusively for the single women i.e., unmarried, legally separated, divorced or widow organised as a Cooperative Group Housing Society either by the State authority or by a social organisation. Dwelling unit in the condominium will be allotted to the member of the society on hire purchase basis for which loan assistance will be provided by HUDCO. The membership of an allottee will automatically get terminated on her getting married.

(ii) Each unit of the Condominium for middle income group women will have one or two rooms with kitchenetts and toilet with gross area not exceeding 35 sq. mts., whereas for low income women, the area will be upto 20 sq. mt. Common facilities will also be provided in the Condominium.

(iii) HUDCO finance will be limited to 80 per cent of the project cost at 10 per cent (net) rate of interest repayable in 15 years. Telescopic repayment could also be considered to reduce the immediate repayment burden on the working women.

Particular attention of the State Governments has been drawn towards the need for submission of projects under the scheme. Adequate publicity about the scheme s also being given among women's organisations.

वाराणसी में टी० वी० स्टूडियो की स्थापना

*334. **डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को वाराणसी में एक टेलीविजन स्टूडियो स्थापित किए जाने के बारे में कोई अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुआ है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में क्या निर्णय लिया गया है और वाराणसी में टेलीविजन स्टूडियो के कब तक स्थापित कर दिए जाने की संभावना है ?

संसदीय कार्य तथा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री एच० के० एल० भगत) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) दूरदर्शन की सातवीं योजना में वाराणसी में दूरदर्शन स्टूडियो केन्द्र स्थापित किए जाने का कोई प्रावधान नहीं है ।